

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 775
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.03.2016

Air Pollution

775. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA ALIAS HARISH DWIVEDI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by the Union Government to control the increasing air pollution in big cities of the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to make the use of CNG mandatory in all the big cities having more than 10 lakh population to check pollution in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) The Govt. of India has taken number of steps to control the increasing air pollution. The steps taken by the Government *inter-alia* include;

- Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (2009), envisaging 12 pollutants;
- Formulation of environmental regulations / statutes;
- Setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality;
- Introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG), ethanol blend etc.;
- Promotion of public transport network of metro, buses, e-rickshaws etc.;
- Promotion of cleaner production processes;

Taking note of the gravity of Air Pollution, the Government has taken some more measures which include:

- Launching of Clean India Mission (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan);
- Amending rules for handling and management of municipal wastes including construction and demolition waste rules notified for comments of stakeholders;
- Launching of National Air Quality index by the Prime Minister in April, 2015 starting with 14 cities and now implemented in 22 cities;
- Implementing Bharat Stage IV norms in the 63 selected cities and universalization of BS-IV by 2017;
- Decision taken to leapfrog directly from BS-IV to BS- VI fuel standards w.e.f. 01.04.2020;

- Holding regular co-ordination meetings at official and ministerial level with Delhi and other State Governments within the National Capital Region (NCR) and Punjab;
- Formulating and notifying stringent industrial standards which include standards recently notified for thermal power plants and sugar industry;
- Giving high priority for public partnership in lane discipline, car pooling, vehicle maintenance, pollution under control certification, action against visibly polluting vehicles etc.;
- Installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries;

(b) & (c) There is no proposal at this stage to make the use of CNG mandatory in all the big cities having more than 10 lakh population.
